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Sessional Committee I

# DRAFT REPORT OF SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I

Rapporteur: Mr. Ivan Gospodov (Bulgaria)

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## INTRODUCTION

(i) At its 773rd (opening) plenary meeting, on 1 October 1990, the Trade and Development Board decided to establish a sessional committee of the whole (Sessional Committee I) to consider and report on agenda items 8 (a), 8 (b) and 10 (c).

(ii) At its 1st meeting, on 1 October 1990, Sessional Committee I elected the following officers to serve on its Bureau:

Chairman: Mr. H. Hamdane (Lebanon)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. I. Gospodov (Bulgaria)

(iii) In the course of the session, Sessional Committee I held seven meetings. This report gives a brief account of the proceedings of those meetings.

## Chapter I

## OTHER MATTERS IN THE FIELD OF TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

(Agenda item 8)

(a) UNCTAD's contribution, within its mandate, to sustainable development (Board decision 370 (XXXV)

1. For its consideration of agenda item 8 (a) the Board had before it the following document:

"Sustainable development and UNCTAD activities" - report by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/1267).

Consideration in Sessional Committee I

2. The Director, Co-ordinator of Resources for Development Programmes, made a statement introducing this item.

3. The spokesman for the Group of 77 (Colombia) said that to the concept of sustainable development was an important dimension of UNCTAD's work, which could not only give new impetus to selected areas of its work through the inclusion of environmental considerations but also open new approaches to the solution of long-standing problems. Since the current global environmental problems were largely the responsibility of the industrialized countries, he argued that these countries owed an "ecological debt" to the rest of the world and therefore had to bear the lion's share of the responsibility for making good the damage that had been caused. While he recognized the responsibility of developing countries for the environmentally sound management of their own resources, he pointed out that poverty was often at the root of environmental degradation in developing countries and that, unless the crucial relationship between developmental and environmental issues was addressed long-term solutions would be out of reach. Ecologically sustainable solutions were dependent on the achievement of patterns of economic growth in developing countries which required support and assistance through multilateral co-operation.

4. He saw the specific task of the Board at this session as the launching of a programme of work which would enable UNCTAD to promote sustainable development, through reaching concrete conclusions under two main headings: firstly through the insertion of the environmental dimension in selected areas of UNCTAD's work, whether of its secretariat or of its intergovernmental bodies; secondly by enabling UNCTAD to inject a development dimension in other forums which were working on environment-related questions, in particular

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through a constructive contribution of UNCTAD to the preparations for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. He also invited UNCTAD to keep under review the subject of "environmental development economics".

5. He welcomed the proposal made by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on tradable carbon emission permits as a means of dealing with the problems of climatic change and saw this as the sort of proposals which UNCTAD could usefully refine as a contribution to work elsewhere. UNCTAD could similarly analyse economic management instruments which had been introduced in various countries in order to encourage more sustainable behaviour and also analyse the development implications of the "polluter-pays principle" and the principle of precaution. Moreover, he attached importance to studies to be undertaken by UNCTAD in consultation with the secretariat of the 1992 Conference, on the development dimension of the issues before the Conference in order to achieve a balance between developmental and environmental aspects in the mobilization of the United Nations agencies and bodies for the preparation of the Conference.

6. UNCTAD could also pursue new approaches in the various fields of work of its main committees. The Committee on Transfer of Technology, for example, would be confronted with the question of the discouragement of technologies in developing countries which had in the past been applied in developed countries. This raised new issues in the negotiations on transfer of technology, such as the terms offered for the acquisition of replacement technologies and the liability for damage incurred in the use of old ones. The inclusion of the subject of biotechnology on the agenda of the next Session of the Committee could be another useful area for exploration: when life forms were turned into economic resources with a market price the countries in which these resources were located must be able to share the benefits.

7. With respect to commodities, neither the costs of depletion should be ignored nor the hidden subsidies provided to synthetic substitutes through externalities. He urged the Board to encourage the Committee on Commodities to pursue suggestions for work on environment-related issues at its next session.

8. In the field of trade policy, increasingly stringent environmental regulations in developed countries could influence the relocation of industrial activities to developing countries and the UNCTAD Trade Control Measures Information System could be of great value in monitoring trade restrictions that went under the guise of environmental regulations.

9. Recalling a statement of the UNEP Governing Council at its fifteenth session that sustainable development did not represent a new form of conditionality, he drew attention to the increasing incidence of environmental conditionality in the area of aid and development finance. He called for a systematic analysis of the array of financial measures proposed for a variety of global environmental issues such as climate change, ozone-depleting substances, biological diversity and anti-desertification measures. Additional income should accrue to developing countries as a matter of right, not of charity, through the correction of market failures and by internalizing externalities which often fell on developing countries. Referring to the various proposals for an international environment fund, he said that such a fund should be comprehensive and raise its income through economic mechanisms and prices which fully reflected the cost of the related activities. The proceeds should be devoted to sustainable development.

10. Referring to the particular vulnerability of island developing countries to environmental deterioration, which at times threatened their very existence, he recalled that UNCTAD has been requested by the meeting of Governmental Experts on Island Developing Countries (June 1990) to undertake a study of the implications of global warming, sea-level rise and climatic change for the development of these countries. UNCTAD should bear in mind the particular problems of island developing countries in its work on sustainable development, as in its other work. In general, the special needs and interests of the least developed countries should be fully reflected in UNCTAD's work on sustainable development. The Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries had stressed that the twin problems of poverty and environmental degradation had to be tackled simultaneously to provide a basis for sustainable development and had underlined a multitude of negative environmental phenomena to which the least developed countries were particularly vulnerable. The LDCs would need special support from the international community to achieve sustainable development.

11. The spokeswoman for Group B (Norway), said that the concept of sustainable development had come to affect many aspects of UNCTAD's work, and had cast a new light on the idea of interlinkage between issues and interdependence of countries. On the basis of General Assembly resolution 44/227, the Board should incorporate systematically the concept of sustainable development in all the ongoing work, of UNCTAD, and should strengthen the in-house capabilities to do so, within overall existing resources. UNCTAD's special analytical capacity regarding commodities, trade policy, technology and development finance could be revitalized by the injection of this new dimension. As the concept of sustainable development was increasingly integrated into UNCTAD's work, the resulting analyses and conclusions might prove useful to more general international discussions now under way. One task for the secretariat could be to study how sustainable development related to micro-economic and structural economic policies for development, and to analyse what this relationship would mean in practice for developing countries, especially in terms of their contributions to the solution of global as well as national environmental problems.

12. Stressing the importance of a broad and adequate technology base to ensure sustainable development, she said that experience had shown that progress in technology allowed for greater industrial output with, at the same time, reduced negative ecological consequences. Group B countries were prepared to co-operate with developing countries in this field, and therefore suggested that the secretariat, taking into account the work being done by other United Nations organs, embark on an analysis of factors that had an impact on the diffusion and the use of adequate and environmentally sound technologies. Regarding the role which private enterprises could play in the transfer of technology, she pointed out that the investment climate in the receiving country as well as the international economic policy environment greatly influenced their decisions.

13. She also favoured investigation by the UNCTAD secretariat of the links between environmental policy and trade policy, in particular how environmental concerns might legitimately be reflected in trade policies without becoming a cover for protectionism. UNCTAD could study the impact of environmental regulations on industrial location and on trade flows, using the UNCTAD Trade Control Measures Information Service. With its unique competence in the

commodity field, UNCTAD should pay specific attention to the link between environmental concerns and trade in commodities, taking into account the work being done in this field by FAO.

14. The representative of Sweden, speaking on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, stated that many of the views expressed in the secretariat report (TD/B/1267) were shared by the Nordic Governments. He stressed, however, the rapid development of these issues and invited the secretariat to examine further what could be the role of UNCTAD in promoting work in the field of environment and development in view of recent decisions taken in UNEP and other United Nations organs. Commenting on how the preparatory work in the UNCTAD secretariat could be structured in order to respond to the current situation, he suggested first that existing work programmes should be examined to identify direct links between those programmes and sustainable development. Secondly, in view of the increasing acceptance of the concept of sustainability in the use of the natural resource base, there was an urgent need to address the problems of integrating these concerns into the socio-economic development plans and programmes. Thirdly, with regard to the transfer of technology, emphasis should be given to relating UNCTAD's work to the preparations for the 1992 Conference as well as to global agreements and related financial mechanisms in favour of developing countries. In this connection, industry should be encouraged to transfer environmentally sound and locally adapted technology to developing countries. Fourthly, UNCTAD's comprehensive mandate on trade issues would enable the secretariat to look into such questions as the consequences for developing countries of the possible protectionist effects of environmental standards, for example in the context of tropical timber trade. Another topical issue that required further analysis was whether systems of tradable emissions permits or other international regulatory mechanisms could be designed so as to work efficiently. Finally, in the context of each item on the agenda of UNCTAD VIII, the concept of sustainable development should be taken into account.

15. He considered that the dimension of sustainable development could be incorporated into every aspect of UNCTAD's work and he highlighted two areas which could be of particular interest. First, in the field of commodities, a number of issues of specific interest for forthcoming conferences would deserve fuller treatment by UNCTAD without encroaching on the work of the different international commodity bodies. One case in point was the question

of the development of natural resources in relation to synthetics and substitutes. Secondly, on the central issue of financial support and development co-operation, he felt that future action could only be sustained if the industrialized countries and others in a position to do so were ready to provide the necessary financial resources, particularly in support of the efforts of the developing countries. Indeed, the new requirements of the environment and development should be a powerful incentive for those countries which were still well below the target of 0.7 per cent of GNP for official development assistance to step up their efforts. The sheer magnitude of environmental problems called for new and innovative mechanisms to mobilize adequate funds.

16. The representative of China said that further deterioration of the global economic situation and environment had posed threats to the development and survival of mankind and that the urgency of finding solutions to this problem had brought the issue of sustainable development into sharper focus. Pointing to the interaction between economy and environment, he said that a favourable economic situation promoted a sound environment, which in turn constituted an important condition for sustained economic development, taking into account the special difficulties of the developing countries. In recent years, the international economic climate had had a negative bearing upon the sustainable development of the developing countries through fluctuating prices of primary products, the prevalence of trade protectionism directed against manufactured products from developing countries and the resulting heavy dependence of their economies on primary products. In addition, their heavy debt burden, as well as their lack of technological facilities and skilled personnel, had made it difficult for developing countries to exploit or process their resources.

17. He considered that sustainable development was a global issue, where both developing and developed countries shared responsibility for achieving the goal of common development, as well as for formulating and implementing domestic policies and strategies that promoted sustainable development. At the same time, developed countries should provide the resources and technology necessary for the developing countries' efforts to be effective, and should create a favourable external economic environment, so as to help these countries to revitalize their dynamism for growth and to eliminate poverty. UNCTAD could and should make a contribution within its mandate to sustainable development, and should continue its research in this field.

18. The representative of Austria observed that particularly high growth rates in energy demand were expected in developing countries as part of their development process. As technological, economic and ecological constraints limited the exploitation and use of fossil energy sources, intensified development of new and renewable sources of energy was becoming a necessity in the transition towards a sustainable global energy system. Austria believed that there was an urgent need to follow up actively on the Nairobi Programme of Action which had been adopted at the 1981 United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

19. He pointed out that sound management of the environment could not be carried out exclusively at the national level as environmental degradation did not stop at national boundaries. The preservation of the environment was a common challenge for both the industrialized countries and the developing countries, and it was not surprising to find that developing countries had established a clear link between their environment and their development efforts.

20. In the matter of sustainable development, UNCTAD should move swiftly, both at the intergovernmental level and within the secretariat, and he was encouraged to see that this issue was already being dealt with in some of the main Committees. In responding to General Assembly resolution 44/127, the Board should first and foremost ensure that sustainable development became an integral part of every UNCTAD activity, that it was treated as a standing item and that its relationship with the main subject matter under discussion in a given committee or group of experts should be continuously reviewed. He also emphasized that the crucial step of integrating sustainable development into all UNCTAD programmes and activities did not imply increased competition for scarce secretariat resources, but simply added a new dimension to the approach taken by the secretariat to the development problems of developing countries. It was a matter of turning UNCTAD "green".

21. The representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, speaking also on behalf of the USSR and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, stressed that the world economic development and the solution of ecological problems were inseparable, as recognized in General Assembly resolution 44/227, and that environmental protection was now a priority area of foreign policy for many countries, including the Soviet Union. The catastrophe of Chernobyl had made the Soviet Union particularly aware of the danger of divorcing economic activities from environmental concerns, which

could destroy the resource base for social and economic development and even threaten the very existence of humankind. The USSR had therefore recently proposed that a global strategy be drafted for the protection of the environment and the rational use of natural resources, with the adoption of binding norms and the principles to guide the behaviour of States in the environmental sphere, the creation of a United Nations centre for ecological emergency assistance, the free exchange of information in ecological matters, and the unimpeded access to sophisticated technology for the protection of the environment.

22. He called for an expansion of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development and on the relationship between environmental and developmental matters, in particular in the areas of finance, trade policy, technology and commodities. Increased attention should be paid by UNCTAD to the relationship between underdevelopment, exacerbated by increasing indebtedness, and the ensuing damage to the environment. Equally, increased attention should be paid to the co-operation among developing countries in the areas of environmental protection and sustainable development, including the exchange of environmentally sound technology and regional projects. He felt that the UNCTAD Trade Control Measures Information Service should be used to detect the emergence of new ecological trade barriers, for which developing countries were particularly poorly prepared. These and other issues identified by the Board could be given their appropriate place in the future work of the UNCTAD secretariat and its intergovernmental bodies, in the preparations for UNCTAD VIII and the 1991 Conference as well as in the aftermath of those events.

23. The representative of Italy, speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community and its member States, said that promotion of sustainable development was a key objective of Community action. In its declaration on "the environmental imperative" adopted in June 1990, the European Council had recognized that the Community must intensify its efforts to protect and enhance the natural environment of the Community itself and of the world of which it was a part. In particular, the Heads of Council had stressed that the Community, should play a major role in assisting developing countries in their efforts to achieve long-term sustainable development. He recalled that the the Community had provided a concrete political impulse for the creation of additional financing mechanisms. Moreover, the importance attached to

environmental protection and sustainable resource management in the fourth Lomé Convention was a significant development in this area which should be followed by similar initiatives to strengthen environmental co-operation with the countries of Asia and Latin America that were not part of the Lomé framework.

24. He recognized that UNCTAD had an important role to play in this area. The report of the World Commission on Environment and Development emphasized the links between trade, environment and development, as well as the urgent need to ensure sustainability in the use of the natural resources base in production and trade. In this light, the European Community welcomed the substantial work done by the UNCTAD secretariat to analyse the implications of sustainable development - an analysis which should be the basis for a new approach to development and trade-related issues affecting all aspects of UNCTAD's work. Priority had to be attached to UNCTAD's contribution to the preparations for the 1992 Conference, which had been given the mandate to elaborate strategies and measures to halt and reverse the effects of environmental degradation in the context of increased national and international efforts to promote sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries.

25. The representative of Venezuela said that, despite the structural changes taking place in the world economy - which included unprecedented economic growth and technological progress in the developed countries - the developing countries still faced impediments to their growth, increasing poverty, worsening terms of trade and a lack of finance for the adoption of environmentally sound policies. Venezuela well understood the magnitude of the environmental problem and its economic dimension, but it refuted the simplistic allegations of the harm done to the environment by the use of hydrocarbon fuels or by the commercial exploitation of the tropical forests. Irrational use of oil should be avoided, and in any case there were many other atmospheric pollutants. Both oil and the forests were vital to the livelihood of the local populations and represented an important source of export revenue.

26. Sustainable development implied a significant and immediate economic and social progress linked to the conservation and rational use of natural resources. This would be possible only through a reorientation of development strategies in a favourable international economic climate. In his view, environmental degradation had been imposed on the developing countries by an international economic order which had impoverished over 75 per cent of

the world population, and it had been accelerated by the demands of a rapid integration into the international trading system. Venezuela shared the view that co-operation between developed and developing countries was essential, especially for the creation of additional financial resources and the transfer of efficient and environmentally sound technology on preferential terms. In this connection, his country favoured the establishment of a world fund for the environment. It was necessary to ensure an equitable and differentiated attribution of environmental responsibilities between the two groups of countries. Having long exploited for their own benefit a large part of the world's natural resources, the developed countries were now trying to force environmental policies on the developing countries - often through an unacceptable environmental conditionality - in complete disregard of the slowdown effect of such policies on the development process. Environmental considerations could not be allowed to impinge on the sovereignty of States which had jurisdiction over the natural resources. Furthermore, the developing countries were entitled to fair compensation for the costs occasioned by a new international environmental order.

27. In conclusion, he said that Venezuela looked forward to the 1992 Conference at which, in addition to the various specific environmental measures that might be adopted, it hoped to see emerge the conviction that the eco-system could be protected only through sustainable development.

28. The representative of Egypt said that, at its current session, the Board must try to establish the future activities of UNCTAD in the area of sustainable development, both at the intergovernmental and at the secretariat level. Expressing his delegation's support for the Group of 77's statement on this item, he singled out the following basic principles for special attention in deciding on the orientation of future work: firstly, sustainable development was closely linked to the elimination of poverty and hence priority should be given to measures in favour of the poorer social groups in the developing countries. Secondly, assistance should be given to the developing countries to enable them to manage their economies and natural resource bases in accordance with their own national plans and priorities. Such support should involve additional resources for the developing countries, as called for in the report by the secretariat. Moreover, donors should not impose new conditions for such financial aid. Thirdly, concerning the notion of joint responsibility of developed and developing countries for the healthy

management of the environment, it should be recognized that, since economic activities were largely concentrated in the developed countries, the industrial countries were every bit as implicated as were the victims of pollution. Fourthly, the emphasis on the environmental aspects of economic activities should not be used as a pretext for trade restrictions. To this end, his delegation favoured the development in UNCTAD of information on trade control measures. Fifthly, sustainable development was intimately linked with the transfer of technology. While he was pleased to see that some developed countries had encouraged developing countries to acquire environmentally sound technology, he was concerned that other developed countries had been exploiting the environmental aspect in order to impose conditions for the transfer of advanced technology to the developing countries. Finally, he considered that UNCTAD must play a central role in contributing to the 1992 Conference.

29. The representative of the United States of America said that UNCTAD had a potentially useful role to play in translating the idea of sustainable development into tools which its member countries could use to enhance their trade and development prospects. The main task was to integrate sustainability concerns into UNCTAD information services and to help member countries to establish mechanisms for making basic sustainability decisions. She urged the secretariat to work closely with those organizations of the United Nations system which had environmental expertise and to avoid duplicating their activities, for example in the area of global resources for the environment. It was important to link UNCTAD activities and sustainability through the use of the Trade Control Measures Information System to monitor regulations for possible protectionism. The collaborative efforts of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT with other organizations of the United Nations system, such as UNEP, could provide additional useful ideas for further consideration, such as the need to sharpen the focus of the ITC services on environmentally-related products and technologies. Concerning the ITC project entitled "Quality control information and advisory support at the enterprise level on environmental standards and regulations affecting trade", she requested that her country be informed of the status of this project and about other collaborative efforts of the ITC.

30. She stated that the United States actively encouraged the dissemination of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries. It was important to bear in mind, however, that the transfer of technology in the

framework of sustainable development was often a neutral tool, the usefulness of which depended on how it was used and the control of which rested with the private sector, so that donor Governments could only encourage but not enforce its wider dissemination.

31. With regard to the 1992 Conference on Environment and Development, she urged the UNCTAD secretariat to assess the most effective ways in which it could make its contribution, both in the preparatory work and in the follow-up. Finally, she emphasized that any UNCTAD activity in the area of sustainable development should be accomplished within existing budgetary resources.

32. Commenting on the statements made in the debate on sustainable development, the Chairman noted that delegations had expressed appreciation for the secretariat report (TD/B/1267), which was scientific in approach and succeeded in linking the development process to environmental aspects in areas of work falling within the mandate of UNCTAD. Some delegations, however, had drawn attention to weak points in the report. They considered, for example, that insufficient attention had been paid to the root causes of the lack of development, such as the debt burden and a hostile environment. Some felt that the report did not clarify the postive relationship between the environment and development. There had also been some dissatisfaction with chapter III on sustainable development and UNCTAD programmes.

33. He noted that all participants had reaffirmed the role of UNCTAD in studying the relationship between the environment and development and in contributing to efforts to protect the environment. There had been several specific proposals founded on the desire to give sustainable development a guiding role in the search for solutions to the problems dealt with in UNCTAD. Pointing to the need for a programme of action to enhance sustainable development, various participants had made the following proposals and observations:

- UNCTAD should participate in the preparations for the 1991 Conference, and in this process there should be full co-operation between the UNCTAD and UNCED secretariats;
- The UNCTAD secretariat should prepare studies and analyses in this context to be taken into account by Governments in measures adopted for their national economies;
- To this end, assistance would be needed for the establishment of instruments and mechanisms at the national level;

- The UNCTAD secretariat should study the management of environmental risks, analyse the factors involved in using adequate and environmentally sound technologies and evaluate the relationship between development policy and trade policy. It should also examine the impact of the environment on the trade flows of the land-locked and island developing countries;
- Another proposed area of study was how the problems of the developing countries impinged on the way in which they exploited their natural sources, and how this in turn affected the protection of the environment. In order to safeguard the environment, it would be necessary to help the developing countries to put an end to their impoverishment, which was a prime cause of environmental degradation;
- International co-operation in the United Nations system should focus on environmental aspects of development, with priority being given to the least developed countries. Some participants considered that it was necessary to set up an international fund for the environment oriented towards sustainable development;
- Finally, there was a need for an exchange of information and ideas as well as co-operation in general between UNCTAD and other United Nations bodies concerning the environmental aspects of development.

Action by Sessional Committee I

34. At the 5th meeting, on 8 October 1990, the spokeswoman for Group B (Norway) introduced a draft resolution on agenda item 8 (a) submitted by Norway on behalf of the States members of Group B (TD/B(XXXVII)/SC.1/L.2).

35. At the 6th meeting, on 9 October 1990, the spokesman for the Group of 77 (Malaysia) introduced a draft decision on agenda item 8 (a) submitted by Senegal on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77 (TD/B(XXXVII)/SC.1/L.3).

[To be completed as appropriate]

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Sessional Committee I

OTHER MATTERS IN THE FIELD OF TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

UNCTAD's CONTRIBUTION, WITHIN ITS MANDATE, TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (BOARD DECISION 370 (XXXV))

Draft resolution submitted by Norway on behalf of States members of Group B

The Trade and Development Board,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/187, 44/227 and Board decision 370 (XXXV),

Recalling also its resolution 43/196 on a United Nations conference on environment and development,

Noting the invitation contained in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 44/227 to Governments and governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as well as other international and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts towards promoting and achieving sustainable and environmentally sound development by integrating environmental concerns and considerations into policies and programmes in all areas,

Reconfirming the need for UNCTAD to conduct relevant activities in this area within overall existing budgetary resources,

Reaffirming that an integrated perspective of both environment and development is crucial to make headway in efforts to tackle the root causes of

global environmental degradation. And that the twin problems of poverty and environmental degradation will have to be considered together to provide a basis for sustainable development,

Having considered the Secretariat's document TD/B/1267 containing an analysis of the interface between sustainable development and the main lines of UNCTAD's activities,

1. Decides that the concept of sustainable development should be incorporated into all areas of UNCTAD's work at intergovernmental level;

2. Invites the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to ensure that the concept of sustainable development be systematically integrated in the ongoing work of the secretariat, in particular in the areas of trade, commodities, technology and finance for development;

3. Welcomes continued co-operation between the secretariats of UNCED and UNCTAD in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, inter alia, through the preparation in UNCTAD for the Eighth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, taking into account studies being made in other forums, to prepare an analysis for the first part of the thirty-eighth session of the Trade and Development Board, of the concept of sustainable development and its interface with micro-economic and structural economic policies for development;

5. Requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in connection with the efforts to promote dialogue within UNCTAD on the interlinkages between environmental and trade policies, to adjust the UNCTAD Trade Control Measures Information System to monitor environmental regulations for possible protectionism and to monitor NTMs which have a bearing on the environment;

6. Further requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, on this basis, in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other relevant agencies, in order to move from concept to implementation of the environment-development relationship, to develop proposals for technical assistance;

7. Underlines that the activities referred to above should pay specific attention to the needs of the least developed countries;

8. Invites international development agencies and donor countries in a position to do so to provide voluntary extrabudgetary resources for this purpose.

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